The Clinical Affairs Committee (CAC) was called to order by Chair Meng on March 27, 2012 at 4:40 in room CL 221. A quorum was present at 4:50.

Approval of Minutes from February 22, 2012
The minutes of the February 22, 2012 meeting were approved with a revision to attendance.

Chair’s Report
None.

Analyst’s Report
The Faculty Research Lecture - Translational Science will be Tuesday, April 17, 2012 3:30 - 5pm in Cole Hall. It will be simulcast live and be available after the event as a download.

UCSF Governance Task Force – Gordon Fung, Farid Chehab, and Ellen Weber, Members and Heather Alden, Executive Director, UCSF Academic Senate Office
Guest Fung commented on the current Task Force position and asked for Clinical Affairs members’ feedback on the current situation. The Chancellor is making a second presentation to the Regents in July 2012 on Governance issues. She will then get feedback, and hopefully approval to move forward.

Recent discussion with other committees has revealed that most Senate committees like being part of the Systemwide Senate System. Examples of similar institutions, which have gone through the same type of Regents to Board of Governors transition include Johns Hopkins or U of Washington.

Guest Alden advised that much of the Regents’ concern is undergraduate education in California which is not the focus of UCSF. Some of the other concerns include the fact that come 2015, UCSF will be in the red (due to health care benefits and retirement payouts, the new hospital coming on board).

Q: What are concerns of CAC members with these potential landscape changes forthcoming both in California and on the UCSF campus?
A: (1) Members expressed concern about a Governors Board potentially stunting academic freedom.
   (2) Members asked to receive/be granted greater flexibility to deal with upcoming changes in the health care market i.e., Supreme Court hearing issues with Health Care Reform Act.
Q: Guest Fung also raised the issue if CAC feels its getting due recognition from the Senate itself? Guest Chehab said there are key issues of if there was to be a governance change, what do clinical faculty want to see stay?
A: Member Rugo said clinicians should receive due recognition, especially as numerous clinicians are just in that particular track and yet there is no difference between many clinicians and other series in re generation of grants, etc.

Q: What is the relationship of the UCSF Medical Center (MC) to the UCOP—and if it would be in the interest of the Medical Center to create a Board of Governors?
A: Guest Chehab advised that Mark Laret reports to Chancellor Sue Desmond-Hellmann. The Medical Center doesn’t have any direct reporting relationship to UCOP.

Q: CAC members asked what to do when the intention of the MC conflicts with clinical intentions of faculty (as pertains to their patients)? Sometimes the concerns of frontline physicians are very different from those of the MC. Chair Meng raised the concern that a Board of Governors might be more focused on MC’s viewpoint.
A: Guest Weber raised the point that a Governors Board should include patients among its membership.
A: Guest Chehab advised that the board constituency is likely to include some industry (both biotechnology and beyond) plus some foundation members and UCSF leadership members.

Some of the communication disconnect might be a separate issue than the Governance Task Force. CAC members discussed wondering if anyone in the MC is “receiving” clinical concerns when CAC expresses them. Is there any impetus on the part of the MC and it’s committees to respond to clinical concerns?

Overall, CAC is interested in serving as an independent sounding board for MC concerns and to insure that longstanding MC committees (on patient flow, etc.) are accountable to someone. This is something that may take time to change but the Senate will work with MC Administration to try and establish a stronger communication bridge.

Reports from the Schools
School of Dentistry
None.

School of Medicine
None.

School of Nursing
None.

School of Pharmacy
None.

Old Business
Discussion of A&R Guidelines for Clinicians -- postpone to next month (April). Chair Meng asked members to review over the next month and be ready to discuss in April.

New Business
None

Chair Meng adjourned the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

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